

November 28, 2016

Re: In re Request for Review or Waiver of the Decision of the Universal Service
Administrator by Sweetwater City Schools et.al., WC Docket 02-6

Dear Madam Secretary:

On behalf of Education Networks of America ("ENA"), we respectfully write to you to request prompt action involving the referenced proceeding.

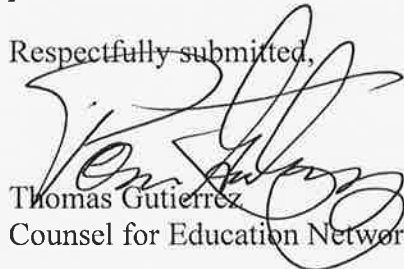
This matter has been before USAC, and then the Commission, for a total of nearly four years. Even recognizing the myriad matters before the Commission, a pendency for so long in a proceeding such as the referenced one does not serve the public interest. It undermines the very core objectives of the E-rate program and disheartens the educators who constitute critical partners of the E-rate effort.

In view of the importance of prompt action in this proceeding, we have previously urged that the Commission utilize the Wireline Competition Bureau's monthly Universal Service Public Notice process to rule on the pending matter. We continue to believe that the Commission could still do so and, if the Commission believes it to be necessary, later issue a decision that would provide any further guidance that it may feel would be helpful to the program's stakeholders on a forward-looking basis.

We are on record as explaining why timing is critical in this proceeding, so we will not repeat all of our prior arguments here. Yet we do want to remind the Commission, respectfully, that USAC's failure to issue a timely decision and the subsequent Commission appeal process has resulted in significant harm. Due to tight budgets at the local level, the school districts have cut staff, including teachers; deferred maintenance on buildings and equipment; cut technology budgets; and cut important programs. More cuts are planned in the near future, absent near term relief from the Commission. Very soon, the negative effects of Commission inaction will become irreversible.

For all of the above reasons, and those previously conveyed to the Commission, we urge that all practical effort be taken to release a decision in this proceeding as promptly as possible.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas Gutierrez
Counsel for Education Networks of America

cc: P. Verveer, Esq.
L. Hone, Esq.
M. Findley, Esq.